



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE COORDINATOR OF FISHERIES

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The concentration of Alaska's salmon canning industry is running smoothly and there is every indication that in the season which begins next month the industry will be able to increase its pack over last year, Coordinator of Fisheries Harold L. Ickes said today.

The coordination order, announced early in March, will concentrate canning in 74 of the most modern plants rather than in the 120 previously used. This concentration will save manpower, equipment, and transportation to a large extent.

"The industry as a whole has been very favorable to the concentration order," the Coordinator said, "and, for our part, we are taking the industry's views into full consideration in its administration."

The armed services and the War Shipping Administration have cooperated as far as they could in returning vessels and equipment to the salmon industry, the Coordinator said, and, with the craft and equipment still in possession of the canners, there should be a sufficient amount to operate efficiently.

Quotas in North and South bound tonnage and passenger transportation have been set for all the canneries and the War Shipping Administration has given assurances that necessary transportation will be available.

Captain J. Steele Culbertson, who is on liaison assignment from the Army to the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries, will act as Special Representative of the Coordinator and will generally oversee the year's Alaskan salmon operations. Captain Culbertson will arrive in Seattle early in April and will proceed to Alaska in June. He will have headquarters in Juneau.

Last year's pack of Alaska salmon amounted to 5,300,000 (five million three hundred thousand) cases. This year it is expected that the pack will reach 5,500,000 (five million five hundred thousand) cases. The value of the pack has ranged in the past anywhere from \$30,000,000 (thirty million) to more than \$60,000,000 (sixty million).